

REMARKS

STATUS OF CLAIMS

Claims 1-20 are pending.

The Examiner maintains the rejection of claims 1-10 (and now includes newly added dependent claims 11-12) under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takagi (US Patent No. 5,881,231) in view of IBM Technical Disclosure Bulletin (Volume 38, January 1, 1995).

The Examiner rejects newly added claims 13-20 under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Shi (US Patent No. 5,875,296). Shi is newly cited, and, thus, newly relied upon.

Claims 1, 7, 13 and 17 are amended, and, thus, claims 1-20 remain pending for reconsideration, which is respectfully requested.

No new matter has been added in this Amendment. The forgoing rejections are hereby traversed.

INDEPENDENT CLAIMS 1 AND 7

TAKAGI

Regarding independent claims 1 and 7, the Examiner in page 4 of the Office Action primarily relies on Takagi, FIGS. 20 and 21, including FIG. 1, the terminal utilization status/environment unit 21 and the terminal location info providing unit 51, to disclose the present claimed invention's, "server ... to provide the connection state transmitting part to the user terminal (e.g., claim 1).

More particularly, Takagi discloses the terminal location info providing unit 15, which is relied upon by the Examiner as the present claimed invention's "server comprising: a providing part to provide the connection state transmitting part to the user terminal," for providing terminal location information, such as the longitude, latitude, and access point, to show where the terminal accesses the network (column 10, lines 38-51). However, in Takagi's FIG. 1, Takagi's terminal location info providing unit 15 does not provide any information showing the "**connection state**" between the information server 40 and terminal 10. In other words, the information provided by Takagi's terminal location information providing unit 15 differs from the present claimed invention's "**connection state**," which would be used in Takagi's FIG. 1 to determine whether the **session** between the information server 40 and the terminal 10 is effective.

The independent claims 1, 7, 13 and 17 are amended to clearly recite the patentably distinguishing features of the present invention as follows. In contrast to Takagi, the present claimed invention as recited, for example, in independent claim 1 provides, "**a user terminal**, comprising: a connection state transmitting part to transmit **a connection state ~~of~~indicating whether the user terminal exists on a session between the user terminal and ; and a server**, which is connected to the user terminal via a network." Support for the claim amendments can be found, for example, in FIGS. 4-7 and page 8, line 2 to page 15, line 6, of the present Application. In particular, page 12, lines 3-10, of the present Application.

Further, in contrast to Takagi, in the present invention, Takagi's network service server 50, which includes the terminal location info providing unit 51, is not required. Because in the present invention (as shown in FIG. 5 of the present Application) the server has a providing part that directly transmits the connection state transmitting part (monitoring applet 72) to the user terminal (client terminal 400), the user terminal is not required to have the connection state transmitting part (monitoring applet 72) beforehand. That is, in the present invention, the user terminal (client terminal 400) cannot have the connection state transmitting part (monitoring applet 72) before the session is established, so that even if the terminal location info providing unit 51 is located in the terminal 10 or in the information server 40, Takagi's configuration would differ from the present claimed invention in which "**the server** comprising: a providing part **to provide the connection state transmitting part to the user terminal** along with information to fulfill a request of the user terminal." In other words, contrary to the Examiner's suggestion, Takagi does not disclose or suggest in connection with FIG. 1 that the terminal location information providing unit 51 provides the terminal utilization status environment information records and unit 21, 11 in the user terminal to be activated. The terminal location info providing unit 51 of Takagi only provides location information of the terminal 10 (column 10, lines 17-51, column 32, lines 1-13, which is relied upon by the Examiner).

Therefore, in contrast to Takagi, the present invention as recited in independent claim 1 provides, "**the server ... to provide the connection state transmitting part to the user terminal ...; and ... to manage session information and to provide information to the user terminal according to the connection state of the user terminal ... from the connection state transmitting part *activated* in the user terminal**" in which "**a user terminal**, comprising: **a connection state transmitting part to transmit a connection state ~~of~~indicating whether the user terminal exists on a session between the user terminal and ; and a server**" (e.g., claim 1, emphasis added).

In other words, Takagi does not disclose or suggest the present claimed invention's server-activated client monitor monitoring the communication session connection state between the server and the client.

IBM BULLETIN

The Examiner acknowledges that Takagi does not disclose the present claimed invention's, "a server ... to manage session information and to provide information to the user terminal according to the connection state of the user terminal received from the connection state transmitting part activated in the user terminal" (e.g., amended independent claim 1), and so the Examiner in page 4, item 9 and page 2, Response to Arguments, of the Office Action, relies on the IBM Bulletin.

The Examiner asserts in page 2, Response to Arguments, of the Office Action that IBM Bulletin discloses: "the server uses the password (i.e., connection state) to authenticate the user and establish (i.e., manage) the session (see disclosure text page 2)." Then the Office Action provides that the Examiner "maintains that one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to manage session information using the connection state of the user terminal information so that a session between the server and the user terminal is managed when the user's connection state is accepted by the server as taught in the IBM for eliminating the need to repeatedly lookup the password in the registry (see IBM page 2, 3d paragraph)."

However, the most reasonable reading of Takagi and the IBM Bulletin would suggest that the disclosure of the IBM Bulletin would be combined in a manner which would not achieve the present claimed invention, as follows. The IBM Bulletin discloses a method to propagate password changes to multiple domains containing the user by integrating multiple LAN server domains into a DCE cell, and by making LAN server domain controllers members of the cell allows all the domains in a cell to keep a set of attributes common (page 1, 1st paragraph spanning pages 1-2). Therefore, the IBM Bulletin is directed to solving the problem of maintaining user passwords when the user is a member of more than one domain (page 1, 1st paragraph). However, the IBM Bulletin does not disclose or suggest the present claimed invention's, "a server ... to manage **session information** and to provide information to the user terminal **according to the connection state of the user terminal received from the connection state transmitting part activated in the user terminal**" (e.g., claim 1, emphasis added).

The Examiner appears to assert in page 2, Response to Arguments of the Office Action, that password management of the IBM Bulletin can be similar to the present claimed invention's

"connection state of the user terminal." However, a password differs from a **"connection state of the user terminal"** that is a communication related state (session) rather than the password being related to user authentication. Therefore, the IBM Bulletin cannot provide any disclosure, suggestion and/or motivation to one skilled in the art to modify Takagi and/or be combined with Takagi to achieve the present claimed invention of providing, "a server ... to manage **session information** and to provide information to the user terminal **according to the connection state of the user terminal received from the connection state transmitting part activated in the user terminal**" (e.g., claim 1, emphasis added).

The present claimed invention has a benefit of managing session information at a server according to the **connection state indicating whether the user terminal exists on a session between the user terminal and the server** and received from the **connection state transmitting part activated in the user terminal by the server**.

INDEPENDENT CLAIMS 13 AND 17

Regarding independent claims 13 and 17, in contrast to Shi, the present claimed invention, using amended independent claim 13 as an example provides:

13. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method of managing user authentication in a server, comprising:

receiving a user ID and a password from a user and authenticating the user;

storing a session ID that corresponds to the user ID in a management table;

transmitting the session ID and a monitoring applet to the authenticated user's client;

receiving screen event information indicating whether the user's client exists on a session specified by the session ID, from the monitoring applet in the user's client; and

releasing the session ID when it is determined that the user's client is no longer accessing the server according to the screen event information received from the monitoring applet in the user's client.

Shi does not disclose or suggest the present claimed invention's, "receiving **screen event information indicating whether the user's client exists on a session specified by the session ID**, from the monitoring applet in the user's client," and "**releasing the session ID** when it is determined that the user's client is **no longer accessing the server according to the screen event information received from the monitoring applet in the user's client**" (e.g., claim 13, emphasis added). Shi discloses using a persistent Web client state object

having a unique identifier therein to enable the Web client to browse Web document of a web server (column 3, lines 3-8). However, Shi's persistent client state object does not provide **"screen event information indicating whether the user's client exists on a session specified by the session ID,"** to the web server. In other words, the persistent client state object disclosed by Shi, which enables a user to browse a Web document, does not include the present claimed invention's server-activated client monitor monitoring the communication session connection state between the server and the client.

Further, as the Examiner also acknowledges in page 7 of the Office Action, Shi does not expressly disclose the present claimed invention's, **"releasing the session ID when determined that the user's client is no longer accessing the server according to the screen event information received from the monitoring applet in the user's client,"** but Examiner appear to suggest that Shi implies releasing the session ID, because Shi does not disclose keeping the session ID upon the completion of the session. However, Shi does not provide any evidence regarding session ID management by the server. If the Examiner is relying on Shi's column 2, lines 38-45, column 3, lines 8-16, and column 9, lines 15-20 for Shi releasing the session ID, clearly Shi does not disclose or suggest in these descriptions the present claimed invention's, **"releasing the session ID when determined that the user's client is no longer accessing the server according to the screen event information received from the monitoring applet in the user's client,"** (e.g., claim 13, emphasis added).

CONCLUSION

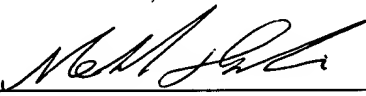
In view of the amendments and remarks, withdrawal of the rejection of pending claims and allowance of pending claims is respectfully requested.

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

Respectfully submitted,
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Date: August 11, 2004

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